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## PROCEEDINGS AND PAPERS.

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GENERAL MEETING, held in the Assembly Rooms, Kilkenny, on  
Wednesday, July 2nd, 1856,

JAMES G. ROBERTSON, Esq., Architect, in the Chair.

The following new Members were elected :—

The Rev. Loftus Reade, Levally Glebe, Enniskillen; F. W. Barton, Esq., Clonelly, county of Fermanagh; and Thos. Johnston, Esq., Longfield, Carrickmacross: proposed by the Rev. George H. Reade.

The Rev. G. E. Corrie, D.D., Master of Jesus' College, Cambridge (for life); Captain Richard Beare Tooker, Royal Cork City Artillery; and Oliver Fitzmaurice, Esq., Duagh House, Listowel: proposed by Richard Hitchcock, Esq.

James F. Haly, Esq., Ballyfoyle, Kilkenny: proposed by John F. Shearman, Esq.

Thomas Ware, Esq., Cork; and John Spread, Esq., Summerhill, Cork: proposed by Richard Caulfield, Esq.

John Power, Esq., Mount Richard, Carrick-on-Suir; the Rev. P. Byrne, R.C. Admr., Carrick-on-Suir; the Rev. P. Morrissey, P.P., Ballyneil, Carrick-on-Suir; the Rev. David Power, R.C.C., Carrick-on-Suir; Mr. Michael Larkin, Tybroughny, Pilltown; and Mr. W. Morriss, Carrick-on-Suir: proposed by John H. Leech, Esq.

James F. Grant, Esq., M.D., Resident Medical Officer, South Dublin Union, Dublin: proposed by the Rev. J. O'Hanlon, R.C.C.

The Rev. John Lymberry, Fethard Castle, Fethard, New Ross; and William Oldham, Esq., Bedford House, Rathgar, Dublin: proposed by the Rev. James Graves.

The following presentations were received, and thanks ordered to be given to the donors :—

By John Greene, Esq., M.P.: "Antiquities of Shropshire," by the Rev. R. W. Eyton, Vol. III., also Vol. IV. parts 1 and 2.

By the Author, M. Boucher de Perthes : " Voyage a Constantinople par L'Italie, La Sicile, et La Grèce, Retour par La Mer Noire, La Roumélie, La Bulgarie, La Bessarabie Russe, Les Provinces Danubiennes, La Hongrie, L'Autriche et La Prusse, en Mai, Juin, Juillet, et Août, 1853." 2 Vols.

By the Author, the Rev. Duncan M'Callum : " The History of the Culdees ; the Ancient Clergy of the British Isles, A.D. 177-1300."

By the Publisher : " The Gentleman's Magazine," Nos. 4 and 6.

By the Archæological Institute of Great Britain and Ireland : their " Journal," No. 49.

By the Historic Society of Lancashire and Cheshire : their " Proceedings and Papers," Session I., 1848-9 [reprinted].

By the Surrey Archæological Society : their " Transactions" for the years 1854, 1855, being Vol. I. part 1.

By the Architectural and Archæological Society for the County of Buckingham : " Records of Buckinghamshire," No. 5.

By the Publisher : " The Builder," Nos. 693 to 699, inclusive.

By the Publisher : " The Literary Gazette," Nos. 12 to 15, inclusive.

By the Publisher : " The Irish Reporter," Nos. 5 and 6.

By the Rev. Charles A. Vignoles, Rector of Clonmacnoise : a small, but interesting bronze brooch, found about a foot beneath the surface, near the ancient grave-yard of Clonmacnoise.

By the Rev. James Graves : a small bronze pin, found at Newtown, near Dysart bridge, Barony of Fassadineen, county of Kilkenny.

By the Rev. James Mease : a " Patrick's penny," in excellent preservation, found near Freshford.

By Mr. Michael Quirk, Irishtown : a farthing of Elizabeth.

By Thomas Lane, Esq. : an ancient tobacco pipe, found in pulling down an old wall near St. Francis' Abbey, in this city.

By J. G. Robertson, Esq. : a copy of an ancient Map of Ireland, A.D. 1572.

Mr. Robertson exhibited a crown-piece of the brass money of James II., on which the words MAG. BRIT. are omitted from the legend ; and a base penny of Edward I. or II., found in a garden near the town-wall, Kilkenny.

By James S. Blake, Esq., J.P. : a specimen of the slates used in roofing Jerpoint Abbey, county of Kilkenny. Mr. Blake had been informed that a large vault existed beneath a garden, within the precincts of the abbey cloister. On search, however, it dwindled to a small sewer which ran from the chancel of the abbey church towards the river, probably the drain of the piscinas of the chancel and side chapels. The slate, which was found in the course of the excavations measured 2 feet by 11 inches wide, and  $\frac{3}{4}$ ths of an inch thick.

The following communication was read, from Richard Caulfield, Esq., Cork :—

“I found the following inventory of the Insignia of the Corporation of Cork among the Sarsfield MSS. The document is not dated, but from the writing I would infer it to be of the latter part of the sixteenth or beginning of the seventeenth century. William Sarsfield was Mayor of Cork in 1542, and again in 1556; Thomas Sarsfield in 1580; James Sarsfield in 1599; Thomas Sarsfield in 1603; William Sarsfield in 1606; Thomas Sarsfield in 1639. It was probably during the mayoralty of one of these that the Insignia were purchased. It was Queen Elizabeth who gave the Corporation the very beautiful collar of SS., which they now possess.

MACES, SWORD AND OTHER ENSIGNES OF Y<sup>E</sup> CORPORATION.

	£	s.	d.
Two maces q <sup>t</sup> 63 oz., at 5 <sup>s</sup> 3 <sup>d</sup> . . . . .	16	10	09
Making and engraving, at 2 <sup>s</sup> 6 <sup>d</sup> . . . . .	07	17	06
52 oz. in Sher <sup>s</sup> maces, at 5 <sup>s</sup> 3 <sup>d</sup> . . . . .	13	13	00
Making & engraving, at 2 <sup>s</sup> 6 <sup>d</sup> . . . . .	06	10	00
Pocket mace, 7 oz., at 5 <sup>s</sup> 3 <sup>d</sup> . . . . .	01	16	09
Making & engraving, at 2 <sup>s</sup> 6 <sup>d</sup> . . . . .	00	17	06
Waterbayliffes oare, 14 oz., at 5 <sup>s</sup> 3 <sup>d</sup> . . . . .	03	13	06
Makeing & engraving, . . . . .	01	15	00
Citty Seal, makeing & silver, . . . . .	01	10	00
Mayoralty Seael, . . . . .	01	05	00
Sword, 20 oz., at 5 <sup>s</sup> 3 <sup>d</sup> —£5 05 00, making & engraving 2 <sup>h</sup> , Scabbard 35 <sup>s</sup> , gilding 3 <sup>h</sup> , Blade 10 <sup>s</sup>	12	10	00
	£67	19	00

“I have examined the present city Insignia of Cork. They are in the custody of the town clerk, and are kept in a large safe, in a room under the Court-house. They are very modern, bearing the date 1738, and are decorated with the royal and city arms, and bear the names of the mayor and sheriffs for that year: so that they cannot be the Insignia mentioned in the old list, which I presume was lost or destroyed during the siege in 1690. The present water-bailiff's oar is the gift of William and Mary, as you will see by the drawing. The maces were much battered or broken when the present Corporation got them, and they had to be repaired. The Corporation sword is quite modern. The old one was sold (most illegally) by the family of the former sword-bearer. It was the most ancient thing the Corporation possessed. I remember having seen it, and from the immense handle it had, I have no doubt but that it was the one mentioned in our list. No person can tell where it is now—all the family are dead. I suspect it is in London.”

Mr. Caulfield also forwarded drawings of the silver oar, the badge of the Cork water-bailiff, bearing at one side the royal arms, and the cypher of the letters M and W combined with two crowned N's. The other side bore the arms and motto of the city of Cork.

Mr. Herbert F. Hore sent fac-similes of signatures from the State Paper Office, being those of Viscount Butler, Governor of Carlow, 1604; Thomas, the tenth Earl of Ormonde, 1604; Garrett, Earl of Kildare, 1607; Mabel, Countess of Kildare, 1607; Sir Matthew De Renzy, 1608; Piers, eighth Earl of Ormonde, 1538; James, ninth Earl of Ormonde, 1539; Robert Cowley, Master of the Rolls, 1639; Richard Aylward, Mayor of Waterford, 1593; Christopher Cheevers, 1693; and Patrick Furlong, Mayor of Waterford, 1593.

The Rev. Duncan M'Callum forwarded two papers, one of which was entitled "The Celts the First Inhabitants of the British Isles;" the other, "Gleanings of Antiquity." The former, with part of which, we fear, the best informed Irish antiquaries will not agree, is as follows:—

"The great Celtic nation, who first peopled Europe, spread into various branches. The most powerful were the Gauls, who, again, sent colonies into many countries. In the year B. C. 270, some of them, under Brennus, crossed the Hellespont, and settled in the north of Phrygia and Cappadocia. They were called Galatians, and spoke the Celtic language in the days of Jerome. Six centuries after the emigration, the Apostle Paul addressed an Epistle to them. But, long previous to that emigration, Gauls crossed the narrow sea to the nearest land, about twenty miles broad. Observing it higher than the coast they left—now France—they called it Breatain; and they thence were known and denominated Breatanich—*Bretains*. Others followed, and the first, moving inland, lost, in the progress of time, sight of the mother country. Their posterity considered themselves to be indigenous. This shows the very remote period at which the first Gauls came into the south of the island. Those who settled on or near the coast, also called Breatanich, were in communication with their friends in Gaul, and sent aid to the *Venati* when Julius Cæsar invaded that country. His pretext for invading Britain was to chastise the Britons for sending assistance to the Gauls.

"While colony succeeded colony to South Britain, only one passed to the north of the island. This appears evident from the name Gaul—*Gauls*—which they have retained to the present day. Their route to the north kept them apart from their friends in the south. On seeing mountains before them, they called the country Albin, as their ancestors denominated the Alps and other mountainous countries abroad. Afterwards the Greeks adopted this name for the whole island, with an additional letter (*euphonia causâ*), viz., Albion—i. e. Great Britain. Hence, South and North Britain, and Britons.

"Although Great Britain and Ireland have been called the British Isles, the latter was properly called the Western Isle—Iarrion, contracted Erin, and Erenich, the inhabitants of Erin; as the inhabitants of Albin (now Scotland) were, in contradistinction, called Albanich, from Alba, Albin.

"It is not improbable that the first colony into Ireland went from South Britain. There are two causes that make this supposition more than probable—the one, that Ireland has been named one of the British

Isles, and the other is the short distance between the two islands, about sixteen miles. But, whether the Belgians (the Firbolg of Ireland) made their way hither in a different course—and which it was—cannot now be ascertained. They spoke a dialect of the Celtic language that differed from the other tribes of Gaul (see Cæsar's 'Commentaries,' books i. and vi.) But all their dialects differed so little, that the Irish and the Scots still understand each other.

"The Gaelic is allowed to be the purest dialect of the Celtic language now known, the Irish the most copious, and there are special reasons for it. The Gael always lived remote, and never mixed with any other nation. The Gothic race, that first appeared in the Hebridæ (Hebrides), landed, and held possession, during a long space of time, of part of North Britain, kept up a continual strife with the natives; they never mixed nor intermarried. The Scandinavians, who frequently invaded Scotland, were always obliged in the end to abandon the country. The Highlanders were never subdued. The Ostmen who settled in Ireland mixed with the natives, enriched the language of the latter by their own, and, although the Celtic always continued the national language, much of the foreign speech was received into it.

"When the Scots were divided into Highlanders and Lowlanders, the latter received so many foreign tongues, as to have made a new language, named the Scottish dialect. The former admitted none."

A communication was received from George Benn, Esq., of Liverpool, as follows:—

"In the 'Ulster Journal of Archæology,' vol. iii. p. 315–321, are two accounts, by two narrators, concerning the demolition of a large cairn on the hill of Scrabo, in the county of Down. In both is related the discovery in the cairn of a smoking pipe, or Dane's pipe, as it is sometimes called, the antiquity, or comparatively recent origin of which has given rise to much speculation, and is altogether an unsettled point. The discovery of this one, however, in a cairn so old, seemed to afford to the writer of one of the papers indisputable testimony in favour of the former opinion; to use his own words, 'it sets the question at rest for ever;' though, oddly enough for a question sealed and settled for ever by his means, he introduces, at the end of his paper, these very qualifying observations, which quite neutralize his statement:—'I cannot vouch for the accuracy of what I have written regarding the opening of the cairn and its contents; and having learned that some of the workmen have given a different version of the matter, I shall merely say that I took down, *verbatim*, the particulars given to me by Mr. Patton, jeweller, of Newtownards, as stated to have been received by him from the man who found the coins.' The other narrator, with more caution and correctness, and I think in a more just spirit of inquiry, says:—'I do not venture to found any argument on the discovery of the smoking pipe, because neither I nor any of my fellow-inquirers have actually seen it; and although this is not the first instance that has come before me of these pipes being found in places of undoubted antiquity, still I am not in possession of sufficient data to come to any conclusion on the subject.'

"Being myself completely in doubt regarding this question, but at the

same time disposed to consider that evidence hitherto had been more in favour of the modern origin of these articles than otherwise, and in spite of the authoritative dictum of one of the writers alluded to, believing that the way and manner of the discovery, the kind of second-hand evidence supporting it, added really nothing to our knowledge on the subject—that it brought this vexed question no nearer to an end, any more, indeed, than if a pipe had been found, or had been said to be found, at any other old cairn or fort, a matter of frequent occurrence,—I ventured, in a short article, in the ‘Ulster Journal of Archæology,’ vol. iv. p. 4, so to express myself, hoping either for farther proof or explanation, or a concurrence in my own view when the manifest weakness of the evidence—the conflicting, the imperfect, the inconclusive evidence—was pointed out. Instead of this result, however, my surprise was great to find, in the March number of the ‘Kilkenny Archæological Journal,’ p. 50, these words from the same writer, Mr. Carruthers, who made the original statement, and on whose inferences I took the liberty of remarking:—‘August, 1855.—At this time some workmen, having removed the stones which composed a cairn on Scrabo Hill, near Newtownards, county of Down, discovered a stone, 8 feet long, broad in proportion, and so heavy, that to remove it they were obliged to blast it with gunpowder; when a grave was exhibited, formed of blocks of stone, in which was a human skeleton, greatly decomposed, at one side of the head of which was a smoking pipe, commonly called a Dane’s pipe; at the side, about  $2\frac{1}{2}$  ounces of very rude, thin, silver Danish coins.’ Now, this is a circumstantial, explicit, unqualified statement, without note or comment, and is certainly at variance with the general scope and tenor of the account as given originally, and with the two quotations which I have made in the former paragraph. It would require the reader to believe, as a fact certain and established, that when this great cairn was removed, a sepulchral chamber of very remote antiquity was disclosed, covered with a stone so stupendous as not to be moved till broken up with gunpowder; that when this was accomplished, there was discovered underneath a smoking pipe, a number of Danish coins, and the bones, including the skull, of a human being: all these objects, if the statement were to be relied on, being of course coeval, and all lying there, centuries upon centuries, before Sir Walter Raleigh or his tobacco was ever heard of. Now, if the writer, or any other observer of equal competence and ability, had *seen* all this (and it would have been no harm to have had the ocular demonstration of two or three witnesses to cumulate the proof of such a miracle), no doubt the evidence would have been complete: it would have been the most unexceptionable, important, and unexpected testimony to the great antiquity of Danes’ pipes which, so far as I know, has ever been brought to light, and might have convinced the most incredulous. It would have been quite a different kind of proof from vague traditions of the monks having smoked coltsfoot, and disputed resemblances to tobacco pipes on rude sculpture of a date anterior to the knowledge of the tobacco plant in Europe, and other uncertain statements of that character. It would have been tangible evidence, and would have formed a stable foundation for all future inquirers on smoking matters, proving not alone the universality, but the immeasurable antiquity of the practice. On seeing the extraordinary statement, therefore, reproduced in this

manner in the 'Proceedings' of the Society, I carefully read over again the two original accounts which appeared in the 'Ulster Journal of Archæology' of the demolition of the cairn, the discoveries which resulted, and all the attendant circumstances, and again affirm, that, besides the inherent improbability, they contain nothing whatever to warrant the broad, unqualified assertion embodied in the recent number of the former publication. The process of demolition or removal was not witnessed by the writer; but half a year after it was completed, and the ground entirely cleared, the workmen are interrogated as to these curious matters. So far from a skeleton having been found entombed in the systematic manner described, with a pipe near its head—perhaps in its jaw—one account says, that no skull was found at all; no pipe was seen by any of the recent investigators; some say the huge stone under which all these marvels were discovered was in a manner detached, that it had slipped away from its original position, and that the smoking pipe was found outside the enclosure altogether. At the lower end of the great slab spoken of, the coins were found, not covered by the large stone, but by others of a smaller size—forming, there is little reason to doubt, a concealed hoard of comparatively modern date. On the whole, therefore, the evidence is altogether hearsay, every way uncertain, in some respects contradictory, and of no value, at least fully to prove a case in any court either of law or archæology.

"I fear it is, to say the least, indiscreet to make statements so explicit and direct, except on the most undeniable proof. It leads to error and vain discussion hereafter. Subsequent arguments may be founded on what is in reality a fable, or at least an unsupported allegation. Archæology, no doubt, admits of much ingenious conjecture; but let it be given as such, to be tested and estimated, as in the end it will, by the learning or acuteness of other speculators; and let not statements quite incapable of proof be put forward, as positive and direct facts, to support any favourite or preconceived theory. It is for the purpose of not allowing the readers of the 'Proceedings' of the Kilkenny and South-East of Ireland Archæological Society to be misled by any incautious statement which has appeared in their valuable publication that I have again drawn attention to it; and that I repeat, for their information, founded on the showing of both the writers of the accounts themselves, that the true position or place of deposit of this pipe, or alleged pipe, within the body of the cairn, is undefined and unknown; and I may add, as a corollary to the above, my own private belief and opinion, that it is likely so to remain in *secula sæculorum*."

The Rev. James Graves read a transcript of a letter from General Preston to the Marquis of Ormonde, dated from Kilkenny, and showing that acts of courtesy passed between the contending parties at a period when they were opposed in the field, as evidenced by the Royalist general having liberated General Preston's page. Whether the hanging of "one Lilly" can be fully defended, on the grounds pleaded by Preston, is a question. The spelling and etymology of Preston's secretary (the signature only being in autograph) are curious. The letter is addressed, "For the most honorable the Lord Marquess of Ormond, these, at Dublin;" and docketed, in



Ormonde's hand, "Colonell Preston's, dated the 26th of March, 1643." The letter was as follows:—

"RIGHT HONNO<sup>rs</sup>—I conceive by yo<sup>r</sup> Lōp's Lre yo<sup>w</sup> take in ill parte the hanging of one Lilly w<sup>ch</sup> heeretofore served in yo<sup>r</sup> Army, but when yo<sup>r</sup> Lōpp vnderstand the cause, I beleeeve yo<sup>w</sup> wilbe better satisfied, the said Lilly havinge served in o<sup>r</sup> Army and runn away to yo<sup>rs</sup>, and wee havinge taken him afterwards, wee caused the millitarie Lawes to bee putt in execution, accordinge to the Custome of the Countrie wherein I served, who gives noe quarter to such men as beinge vncapable thereof, as I hope yo<sup>r</sup> Lōpp will conceiue to be soe fittinge, and could wish y<sup>t</sup> yo<sup>r</sup> Lōp would vse all such as run away from yo<sup>r</sup> Army that yo<sup>w</sup> finde againe in the same nature, givinge yo<sup>r</sup> Lōp thanks for sendinge my sonns page backe; I remaine  
Yo<sup>r</sup> Lōps most humble servant

T. PRESTON.

"*Kilkenny 26 Martij*  
1643."

Colonel Thomas Preston, a brother of Lord Gormanstown, had served many years in the Low Countries, in the service of Spain, where he had particularly distinguished himself by his gallant defence of Genep in 1641. He came to Ireland in September, 1642, and in the October following was appointed Provincial General for Leinster, by the General Assembly of the Confederate Catholics.—Carte's "Ormond," vol. i. pp. 367 and 369.

The following papers were then submitted to the Meeting.

THE SURRENDER, IN MARCH, 1649-50, OF BALLYSONAN, IN  
THE COUNTY OF KILDARE, TO THE PARLIAMENTARY  
FORCES.

BY THE REV. JAMES GRAVES, A.B.

THE despatches forwarded by Cromwell and his officers to the Parliament of England, descriptive of their victorious career in Ireland, are all of more or less interest, full of quaint description, and valuable as the words of eye-witnesses and actors in the closing scene of the bloody drama of the Great Rebellion. Carlyle, in his Letters and Speeches of Cromwell, has collected the Irish despatches of the general-in-chief, and thrown the light of his genius around the vigorous, but uncouth, and often obscure, productions of that great man. But the communications forwarded by the subordinate officers of the expedition have never been collectively reprinted, and are only to be discovered in the libraries